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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/147,052	04/05/1999	SHUJI SAITOH	981167	1182
23850 7590 12/28/2007 KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP 1420 K Street, N.W. Suite 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20005			EXAMINER GANGLE, BRIAN J	
			ART UNIT 1645	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/28/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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09147052	4/5/1999	SAITOH ET AL.	981167

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**EXAMINER**

Brian J. Gangle

ART UNIT	PAPER
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1645

20071221

**DATE MAILED:**

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**Commissioner for Patents**

Applicant's request for return of Form PTO-1449 is acknowledged.

Applicant has indicated that a signed copy of the PTO-1449, filed 9/25/1998, was returned with the office action dated 2/29/2000. However, two references, JP7-503842 and JP5-504253, were marked through to indicate they were not considered. Applicant submits that the Information Disclosure statement was proper and the references should have been considered. Applicant indicates that a concise explanation of relevance of these references was provided in the PCT search report that was provided along with the Information Disclosure Statement.

While no explanation was provided in the office action dated 2/29/2000, the examiner was correct in not considering the references. No copy of JP7-503842 has been provided in this application, nor is there a mention of JP7-503842 made in the PCT search report. A copy of JP5-504253 has been provided; however, said copy is not in English, and there is no explanation of relevance of this reference in the PCT search report. Thus, neither reference has been considered.

  
SHANON FOLEY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600